



Return to School Plan Health Services

Executive Order 2020-40

Executive Order 2020-40 was filed on June 4, 2020, by Governor J.B. Pritzker. This order allowed schools to reopen in the fall with in-person instruction. In-person instruction is strongly encouraged in this order, especially for children 13 years of age and younger. However, the Illinois Department of Health (IDPH) is requiring the following measures with this reopening of in-person instruction:

- Require the use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including face coverings
- Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space
- Require social distancing be observed as much as possible
- Require schools conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require individuals to self-certify that they are free of symptoms before they enter the building
- Require an increase in school wide cleaning and disinfection

All public schools in Illinois serving pre-kindergarten through 12th grade must follow these guidelines. It is important to note that these requirements are subject to change pursuant to updated public health guidance and changing health conditions

IDPH Guidance

District 114 will be following the IDPH guidelines. If there is conflicting information, (Illinois School Board of Education/ISBE or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/CDC) the District will follow the IDPH guidelines. The safety requirements outlined in the Part 3 Joint Transition Guidance from ISBE and IDPH are the minimum standards that must be met in schools. This is a fluid and ever-changing situation and things will be updated appropriately based upon IDPH guidance.

According to the IDPH, we are required to “send home or deny entry (and provide instruction) if ANY of the following symptoms are present: Fever (100.4°F or higher), new onset of moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, new cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain from unknown cause, new congestion/runny nose, new loss of sense of taste or smell, nausea, fatigue from unknown cause, muscle or body aches.”

In addition, if a student is symptomatic and does not come to school, his/her sibling(s) **must also stay home. Proper documentation will need to be provided in order for all students to return to school.**

Daily Self Certification

- All district parents/guardians will conduct an online self screen within one hour prior to the start of school.
- If not done upon arrival, a temp check and symptom screener will be done on the student.

Access to Powerschool is available by two methods: 1. A daily email from SchoolMessenger with a link to log into PowerSchool for self-certification. Clicking on the link will allow parents to access the self certification for each child. 2. A link to self-certify will be located in PowerSchool, on the district website, and MSD114 Facebook page.

Absence Reporting

If your child is unable to come to school, please call the school office in addition to completing the daily self certification. Please provide a clear description of the reason for your child’s absence, especially if it may be Covid related. **Any illness related absence will require isolation for 48 hours with the last 24 hours being fever and symptom free without medication.** In addition, if a student is COVID-19 symptomatic and does not come to school, his/her sibling(s) must also stay home. Proper documentation will need to be provided in order for all students to return to school.

District 114 Requirements for Face Coverings

- All staff and students will be required to wear a face covering (mask) at all times in the building and also on the bus. Individuals who have a condition or medical contraindication (e.g., difficulty breathing) that prevents them from wearing a face covering are required to provide documentation from the individual's physician. These persons may wear a face shield in lieu of a face covering; however social distancing will be strictly enforced. Measures to reduce risk of exposure for these persons will be implemented where possible.
- Mask breaks will be given to students at all grade levels during various times, including times outside when the weather is feasible.
- Parents **MUST** provide a face mask for their child daily.
- Students will be reminded by teachers and administration to wear their masks appropriately covering their noses and mouths at all times.

Nursing Judgement

COVID-19 affects people in different ways. A wide range of symptoms have been reported, from mild symptoms to severe illness. In the school setting, the school nurses are subject to IDPH guidelines. Therefore, the nursing staff will assume any student with the following symptoms is potentially COVID-19 positive and will be sent home, returning only when he/she has met the return to school guidelines. These symptoms (defined as new onset not attributed to allergies or a pre-existing condition) include the following: fever (100.4 or higher), new onset of moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, new cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, muscle or body aches and close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 or had symptoms of COVID-19.

Health Office

- When students return to in person learning, the Health Office will be used for students who require medical management, such as medications, assessment of injuries, first aid, etc. The Health Office should be utilized for routine care. Healthy students should avoid contact with potentially ill children. Whenever possible, nurses will stagger students' routinely scheduled visits to avoid having multiple students in the Health Office at the same time.

Isolation Space

CDC provides guidance on an isolation plan if students/staff arrive at school ill or become ill at school. Isolation "separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are well." Schools must immediately isolate any student who presents with COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up. Each school will establish a dedicated space for symptomatic individuals who are waiting to go home. Isolation spaces will be building specific.

The designated space should:

- Accommodate social distancing of at least 6 feet
- Be located close to an exit
- Have an identified isolated restroom for use
- Set up in a way that allows for clear visibility for supervision from at least 6 feet away
- Only essential staff and students assigned to the space may enter

Isolation Space Procedures

- Any student presenting with symptoms of COVID-19 should be brought to a screening area to be screened by the nurse. This screening space will be a designated area where the nurse will evaluate the student to determine if the student's needs should be met in the Health Office or the isolation space.
- If the nurse determines the student is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, the student will be taken to the isolation space and placed into an individual isolation area for further evaluation.
- The student will continue to wear his/her mask
- When interacting with students or staff who may be sick, school nurses and personnel should follow CDC guidance on standard and transmission-based precautions
- The nurse will contact the student's parent/guardian or emergency contact. **Pick up will occur within 30 min of contact.**

- The person picking up the student will be given written instructions regarding the need to home isolate and/or visit his/her primary health care provider
- Remember that schools are not expected to routinely screen students or staff to identify cases of COVID-19. If schools have cases of COVID-19, local health officials will help identify those individuals and will follow up on next steps
- Refer parents to their healthcare providers to determine when school re-entry is recommended
- Per CDC Guidance, the isolation space will be left vacant for as long as feasible, before cleaning and disinfecting.
- Students should be placed at least 6 feet apart from each other while in the isolation room.

If one of the household members is being evaluated for COVID-19, the rest of the household MUST be quarantined until an alternative diagnosis is made or a negative test result is received. Also, if a student is sent home with one or more symptoms, all other siblings in the district will be sent home. If the sick student becomes a confirmed or probable case (COVID-like symptoms and is epidemiologically linked to a known case) the local health department conducting contact tracing will place household contacts, including siblings, in quarantine for 14 days.

Symptom Screenings

1. All staff will self certify before entering the building.
2. If the student is identified as having one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19, the parent/guardian will be contacted. The student will be picked up within 30 minutes. This necessitates that the parent/guardian or emergency contact be an individual who is able to come to the school within this time frame. This ensures that exposure will be kept at an absolute minimum.
3. If the COVID-19 positive student has a sibling in the district, the sibling will be quarantined with the family and will receive remote instruction at that time.
4. If a family member tests positive, the student(s) living in the home will be quarantined for 14 days. Classmates are not quarantined unless symptoms appear because they did not have close contact with the positive case. Rooms will be disinfected per protocol.
5. Exposure is defined as close contact within 6 feet for equal to or greater than 15 minutes.
6. Please keep in mind that not all illnesses will be COVID-19 related. For other illnesses we will be following IDPH guidelines and protocols.
7. Parent communication will occur when there is an exposure or quarantine that impacts your student directly.

Parent Letter - Student exhibiting COVID-19 like Symptoms

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child has been identified to have COVID-19 like symptoms, contact/potential exposure, or direct contact based upon the IDPH School Symptom Screener. We ask that you please keep the school nurse informed of illness-related absences and/or COVID-19 diagnosis or exposure, and contact the Nurse's office with any questions. Medical evaluation and testing are strongly recommended for all persons with COVID-19 symptoms.

IDPH School Screener

Have you experienced ANY of these symptoms in the past 24 hours?	Yes	No
Fever (100.4 degrees or higher)		
Cough (new)		
Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing		
Fatigue from unknown cause		
Muscle or body aches		
Headache (new onset of moderate to severe headache)		
New loss of taste of smell		
Sore throat		
New Congestion/runny nose		
Nausea or vomiting; Abdominal pain from unknown cause		
Diarrhea		
Close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 or who had symptoms		

We ask that you follow the IDPH Exclusion Guidance as to when your child can return to school. We can not share any identifying information about the individual who was diagnosed (name, position, gender, etc) when conducting the contact tracing.

Travel During the School Year

If your family is traveling domestically or internationally during the school year, be sure to check the Illinois Department of Public Health website to see if there are any quarantine restrictions for the return to Illinois from certain locations.

Emergency Contact Information

If your child develops COVID-like symptoms at school, it is imperative that they be picked up in a timely manner so as to limit the exposure to others. It is very important that you keep your contact information updated in PowerSchool. If your child becomes ill, we will call the first and second numbers on your list. Please provide us with at least one alternate individual that can pick up your child should you be unable to come to school **within 30 minutes**. If there are concerns about your child's health and safety and we are unable to reach you, we will enlist the assistance of emergency personnel.

Close Contacts

The district will follow the Illinois Department of Public Health guidance regarding all confirmed cases of COVID-19. We cannot share any identifying information about the individual who was diagnosed (name, position, gender, etc.). Keep in mind, Individuals who have undergone testing should remain home away from others while waiting for COVID-19 test results.

A close contact is anyone (with or without a face covering) who was within 6 feet of a confirmed case of COVID-19 (with or without a face covering), for 15 minutes throughout the course of a day. The period of close contact begins 2 calendar days before the onset of symptoms (for a symptomatic person) or 2 calendar days before the positive sample was obtained (for an asymptomatic person). If the case was symptomatic (e.g., coughing, sneezing), persons with briefer periods of exposure may also be considered contacts. Close contacts to a confirmed case of COVID-19 are required to remain in quarantine at home for 14 calendar days starting from the last day of contact with the confirmed case.

The CDC has offered a **shortened ten day quarantine** for close contacts who receive a **negative PCR test on day 8 or later** and remain asymptomatic from the last exposure of the positive case. If the result is negative, then the student may return to school on Day 11, as long as they remain asymptomatic (symptom free). Please contact your school nurse if you have any questions.

To emphasize, according to IDPH, **if one of the household members is being evaluated for COVID-19, the rest of the household must be quarantined until an alternative diagnosis is made or negative PCR test result received**. If the student becomes a confirmed case (i.e., tests positive for COVID-19) or a probable case (i.e., has COVID-like symptoms and is epidemiologically linked to known case), the local health department (LHD) conducting contact tracing will place household contacts, including siblings, in quarantine for 14 calendar days. The health department will also provide guidance on how to safely quarantine and isolate within the household.

We have been working closely with the Will County Health Department and IDPH to effectively implement all recommendations and guidelines in order to create the safest possible environment for all students and staff. We will continue working with the Will County Health Department and IDPH to update our guidelines and implement any new measures that are recommended by IDPH or the Will County Health Department.

Manhattan School District 114

“Where We Succeed Together”

MASK EXEMPTION FORM

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

School: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

1. To Be Completed By Student’s Physician

The above named student is under my medical care and is unable to wear a mask while attending school.

Reason for Mask Exemption:

1. Child is unable to remove his/her own mask.
2. Child has a medical diagnosis that impedes him/her from wearing a mask.

Diagnosis: _____

Physician Signature: _____

Date: _____

2. To Be Completed By The Student’s Parent/Guardian

I _____, Parent/Guardian
of _____ authorize my child to attend school while not wearing a mask. I understand that as a result of facial protection, my child will be distanced from other children in the classroom as outlined by the IL Dept of Public Health and the IL State Board of Education COVID-19 protocols.

I further acknowledge and agree that, as a result of attending school, I waive any claims I might have against the Manhattan 114 School District, and its employees and agents, arising out of exposure to COVID-19. In addition, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless, Manhattan School District 114 and its employees and agents, either jointly or severally, from and against all claims, damages, causes of actions or injuries, including reasonable

attorney's fees and costs expended in defense thereof, incurred or resulting from the administration of said exposure, except a claim based on willful or wanton conduct.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____